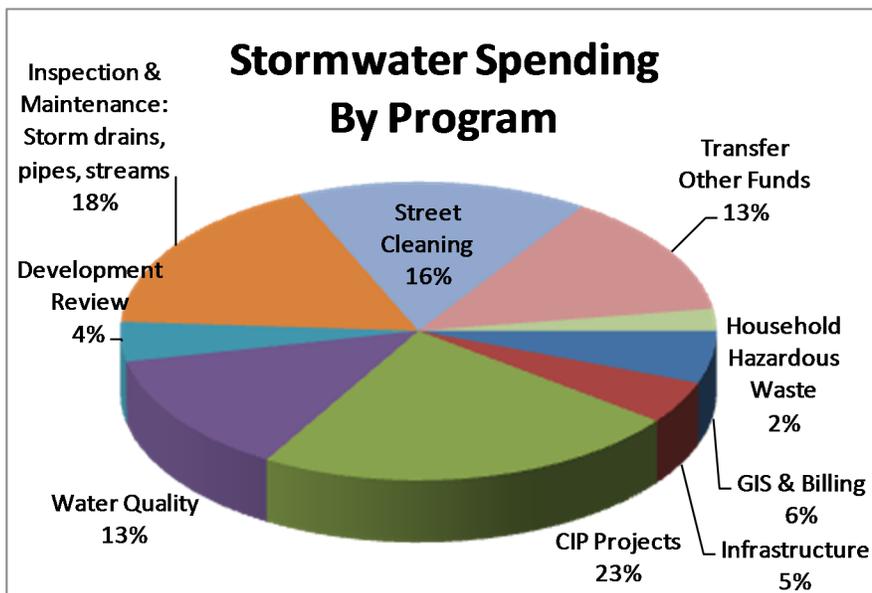


WATERways

Volume 15, Number 1: July 2011



Your Stormwater Dollars at Work



A new video is available that explains why the City needs to manage stormwater and how the utility fee is used. You can view the video on Time Warner Cable channel 8 and on YouTube (search for “Your Stormwater Dollars at Work”).

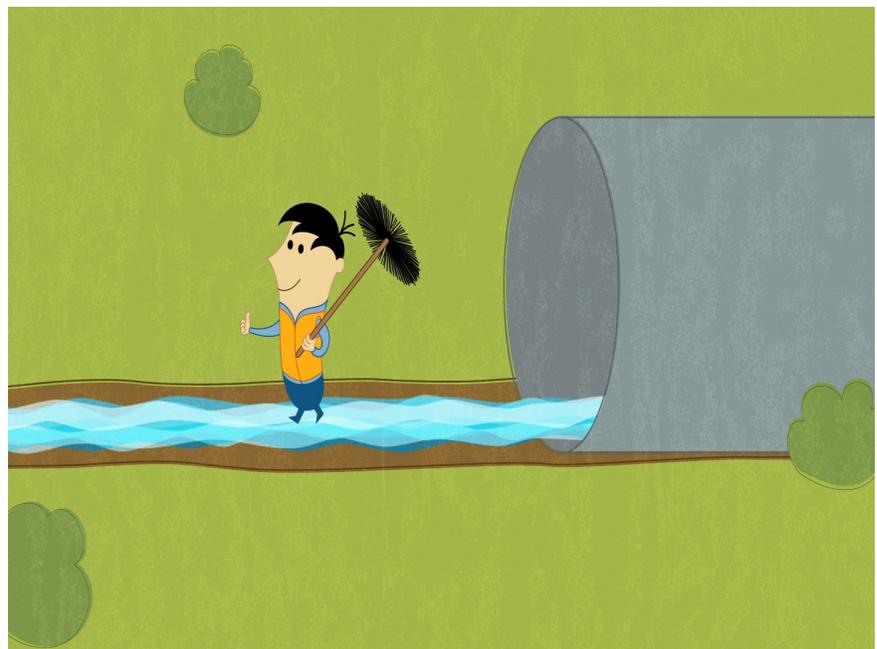
The largest portion of spending is on Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Projects. These projects include replacing drainage systems and adding water quality treatment devices. This year, the City will replace storm drains and pipes in rights of way and fund drainage projects on private and city owned property. To improve

water quality in streams and lakes, the City will install water quality measures in city projects.

Two other priorities for the year are to begin to address Jordan Lake Nutrient Management Rules and to replace trucks used for maintenance and street sweeping.

The stormwater fee will continue to fund ongoing programs that prevent pollution, provide floodplain maps, and maintain the drainage system.

Visit the City’s website, www.durhamnc.gov/stormwater, to learn more about how your stormwater bill is set and how the fee is used.



Maintaining stormwater pipes is one activity highlighted in a new video to show how the City uses the stormwater utility fee.

Green Infrastructure

Four road improvement projects will feature a new method of water quality treatment. Filterra bioretention boxes will capture road runoff and remove pollution before sending it to the drainage system.

A bioretention box is filled with special soil and a small tree. Rainwater runoff enters and drains down through the soil. The system removes oil, nutrients, bacteria, and metals that pollute our streams and lakes.

The City added seven Filterras on Harvard Avenue to treat 1.7 acres of surrounding land and roadway. Three other projects will also use Filterras: City Hall Plaza, Fayetteville Buxton Riddle, and Angier Driver streetscape.

The compact design of Filterra systems makes them ideal for urban areas. Compact solutions are key in reducing pollution in parts of the city that are already developed.

Watershed Planning Updates

Field work for the Third Fork Creek Watershed Improvement Plan is complete. Project engineers are working on a model that evaluates water quality solutions. The model will allow the City to choose projects that balance cost



A Filterra bioretention box removes pollution from stormwater runoff as it enters the drainage system.

and pollution removal. Results will be presented at a public meeting this fall.

Work began this summer on the Northeast and Crooked Creek Watershed Management Implementation Project. Field crews will look at existing stormwater treatment devices to see which might be upgraded. They will also walk streams to rate conditions, noting possible restoration sites. Results from field work and modeling will be used to create a list of water quality projects. The final report is due next summer.

Information on both watershed plans is available on the City's website.

Summer Clean Water Tips

- ◆ Wash cars over grass or take them to the car wash
- ◆ Use phosphate-free fertilizer to maintain lawns
- ◆ Carefully follow directions if you use pesticides or weed killers; do not apply near ditches or creeks
- ◆ Empty rain barrels between storms
- ◆ Leave grass clippings on your lawn to recycle nutrients
- ◆ Compost yard waste, or use the brown City bins (do not blow or sweep into street)
- ◆ Recycle used oil at an auto parts store

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Public Works Department - Stormwater Services

(919) 560-4326 - www.durhamnc.gov/stormwater

Report Water Pollution: stormwaterquality@durhamnc.gov or 560-SWIM

Design/Construction/Plan Review - Drainage/Flooding Concerns - Floodplain Information

Stormwater Public Education - Surface Water Quality

Notice Under the Americans with Disabilities Act:

Persons who require assistance should call (919) 560-4197, ext. 21254, TTY (919) 560-1200 or e-mail ADA@durhamnc.gov no later than 48 hours before the event.



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